

Tidelands Management Committee
Draft Vision Statement and Preliminary TIMP Listing
April 20, 2011

Tidelands Vision Statement

1. Existing Source Documents Where Visions or Missions are stated:

a. **Harbor Resources Mission Statement**

To protect and improve the resources of Newport Harbor, Upper Newport Bay, and the ocean beaches to ensure their proper uses and enjoyment by all things that derive life, recreation, or commerce from our City's most important asset.

b. **Harbor & Bay Element**

The goals and policies pertaining to harbor issues are intended to guide the content of regulations related to development of, and the activities conducted on, the water. Additional goals and policies recognize the important component of land use decisions related to waterfront property around Newport Harbor. The aim of the Harbor and Bay Element goals and policies are to preserve the diversity and charm of existing uses without unduly restricting the rights of the waterfront property owner. Goals and policies within the Harbor and Bay Element have been organized to address both water and land related issues, provision of public access, water quality and environmental issues, visual characteristics, and the administration of the Harbor and Bay.

c. **HAMP Objectives & Goals to Achieve a Sustainable Newport Bay**

The sustainability of the social, economic, and environmental values of this treasured estuary ecosystem and its beach communities depends on successfully managing the Newport Bay to achieve the following broad objectives:

- i. Protect the recreational values (social)
- ii. Recognize the economic value of the Harbor and its channels to the local community (economic)
- iii. Assure a sustainable estuary system linked to watershed and coastal habitats (environmental)

d. **2008 Economic Analysis Report (Not Approved by Council)**

- i. Tidelands viewed as the City's marquee Public Resource
- ii. Current flow of economic benefits from Tidelands
- iii. Improvements in and Additions to Existing Tideland Services
- iv. The problem of Financing Current and Improved Services

e. **Central Orange County Integrated Regional and Coastal Water Management Plan Vision**

Public and private lands in the Central Orange County Watershed Management Area sustain healthy watershed ecosystems, protect critical habitat and species, and allow the community to enjoy its connection with nature; and at the same time safeguard the health and welfare of the community, maintain immediate and long-term reliability of water supplies, and protect the value of property.”

2. Therefore, draft Tidelands Vision Statement could be:

*Our Tidelands are recognized as a world class ocean adjacent destination that provides for a diversity of recreational uses including a visitor friendly harbor, recreational boating, fishing, water sports, and ecological enrichment. All of our tideland areas are flourishing ecosystems with high water quality, and the tidelands are **managed in a sustainable manner by balancing community, economic and environmental beneficial uses**, including assurance of a proper mix of upland residential, visitor serving and marine support uses.*

Tidelands Infrastructure Master Plan (priority, status, timing, cost)

1. Dredging (in order of priority)

- a. Rhine Channel
 - i. Contaminated sediment cleanup project
 - ii. ~100,000 cy
 - iii. Start August. End December
 - iv. \$4M
- b. Lower Bay Channels
 - i. Award September 2011
 - ii. ~100,000 – 200,000 cy (full project 1.2 million cy)
 - iii. Start during or after Rhine project
 - iv. Areas to dredge depend on whether we can use POLB or not
 - v. Current Corps budget: \$2.2M
- c. RGP-54 Permit for Residential & Commercial Dredging
 - i. Current permit expires October 2011
 - ii. Renewing permit for 2.5 years (\$150k), then full 5 year permit in 2014 (\$400k)
 - iii. Allows up to 1,000 cy of material dredged for beach or ocean disposal. Relieves homeowners of securing costly Individual Permits
- d. Grand Canal
 - i. Dredge the channel
 - ii. Sand replenishment along the seawalls
 - iii. Little Island Bridge Retrofit
- e. Newport Channel / Seminouk Slough
 - i. Coordinate project with Corps.

- ii. ~\$2M
- f. West Newport (Newport Island) Dredging
 - i. Newport responsibility
 - ii. Quantities unknown. Sediment testing required.
 - iii. ~\$3M (??)
- g. Upper Bay Maintenance Dredging
 - i. Plan for future dredging needs in ~20 years. Start saving now.
 - ii. Share costs with watershed partners and County
 - iii. Last project was \$50M

2. Eelgrass

- a. Finalize plan that is Newport Harbor specific
 - i. Allows for eelgrass impact assuming minimum level is maintained in the harbor
 - ii. Final draft to be reviewed soon

3. Beach Replenishment

- a. Balboa Island beaches (primarily South and East Bay Fronts). Tractor work.
 - i. Project to import sand on Little Island
- b. China Cove beach
 - i. Move sand from larger China Cove to smaller China Cove
 - ii. Project to import sand

4. Oil Wells

- a. Explore opportunities for increased revenue stream

5. Sea Level Change / Bulkhead Height

- a. Balboa Island bulkhead report available soon
- b. Consider all other public street ends
- c. Consider raising current bulkhead standard from +9 MLLW to +10 MLLW (or more)

6. Harbor Amenities and Services

- a. Mooring Support Service Center at BYB and Marina Park
- b. Visitor serving docks
 - i. Marina Park
 - ii. New public dock under Lido Bridge
 - iii. New public dock near Balboa Marina (near PCH Bridge)
- c. Maintaining critical marine-related businesses
 - i. Mariner's Mile
 - ii. Rhine
 - iii. Lido Marina Village
- d. Big boat docking
 - i. Lido Marina Village (refer to "Bubble Plan" – Ralph Rodheim)

- e. Law Enforcement – Harbor Patrol
- f. Water Taxi
- g. Water Recreational Uses (swimming, standup paddle boards, kayaking etc...)

7. Beach / Other Maintenance

- a. Log Boom at N. Star Beach
 - i. Overhauled in 2011
 - ii. Catches tons of debris each year
 - iii. Easily maintained

8. On-Land Tidelands Support Facilities

- a. Jr. Guards permanent home
- b. Lifeguard HQ

9. Water Quality

- a. Selenium
- b. Other TMDLs
- c. Copper

10. Habitat Restoration, Education

- a. Upper Bay relationships (County, DFG, Newport Bay Conservancy
- b. Consider a Lower Bay Conservancy type group
- c. Back Bay Science Center, Muth Center
- d. West Newport – Banning Ranch restoration activities, Orange Coast River Park activities